



**APPROVED 10-12-04**  
**KING COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2004**  
**EXCHANGE BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM 6A**

**Members Present:** Alberto Gallego (awaiting Executive appointment), Melody Cecilia James, Howard Miller, Eleanor Owen, Ron Sterling, Clifford Thurston, Gwendolyn Williams

**Members Absent:** Shauna Cheney (unexcused), Joshua Freed (unexcused), Helen Nilon (excused), Jim Nobles (excused)

**Guests Present:** Joan Clement (KCASAAB), Pam Pratt (private citizen), Eugene Wan (board applicant), Silvia Singer (VCCC), Jerry Yager (KCFMD)

**Staff Present:** Geoff Miller, Rhoda Naguit, Jean Robertson

---

## **I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION**

Board Chair Ron Sterling convened the meeting at 4:35 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce him/herself.

## **II. MINUTES**

Eleanor Owen noted a minor correction on page 6 under Liaison Report on Washington State Hospital. Change the bed cost for PAL to \$263. She then made a motion, which was seconded by Clifford Thurston to approve the August 10, 2004 minutes as modified. The motion passed unanimously.

## **III. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Eleanor Owen:** NAMI-Greater Seattle will hold a forum on September 21, 2004 at 7:00pm-9:00pm, featuring Dr. David Dunner, and the topic will be latest treatments for depression.

On Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, the Mental Health Task Force will hold its meeting at Marriott Hotel in SeaTac, which will convene at 9:00am.

**Ron Sterling:** Dr. Phillip Dawdy, a reporter for Seattle Weekly, will be featured at NAMI-Eastside Educational Forum focused on Mental Health Services in King County and the State of Washington. This will be held on September 21<sup>st</sup> from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the Evergreen Hospital and Medical Center in Kirkland.

Strides for Stability, an event jointly sponsored by Community Psychiatric Clinic and Sand Point Community Housing Association, will be held on September 18<sup>th</sup> at

9:30am at Sand Point Magnuson Park in Seattle. This fundraising event will benefit the mental health and housing services provided by these two non-profit agencies in the community. Seattle Mental Health is holding a fundraising event called Brainstorm on Saturday, September 25. More information is available at their Web site, [smh.org](http://smh.org).

Seattle Counseling Services will have an open house on Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00pm-7:00pm. Their new location is at 1216 Pine Street, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98101.

#### **IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Board Chair Ron Sterling shared his idea with the board on board recruitment. He suggested utilizing agencies' fundraising events to educate attendees about volunteering for the board or for community members to be involved with board's working committees. He asked if any board member would like to join him to man a table or hand out brochures at the forthcoming Strides for Stability Run/Walk on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Due to time constraint, Jean recommended giving out fact sheet or flyer instead.

In an effort to recruit new members for the board, Eleanor made a motion which was seconded by Gwendolyn Williams that MHAB Chair Ron Sterling write a letter to board chairs/presidents of agencies to request to do a board presentation at their regular board meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **A. Legislative Advocacy and Public Affairs Committee**

Eleanor Owen reported that in conjunction with King County Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Exemplary Service Awards on September 28, 2004, a Recovery Forum Workshop will be conducted prior to the awards ceremony. This three-hour workshop will discuss the history of recovery from a mental health point-of-view and from a chemical dependency point-of-view. The event will be held at the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture.

Geoff Miller added that currently the committee's predominant efforts are around public affairs. The committee is preparing for the joint Legislative Forum to be held on December 9, 2004 at St. Mark's Cathedral.

##### **B. Nominations Committee**

The Nominations Committee has scheduled the interview of new board applicants, Eugene Wan and Allan Panitch, for Tuesday, October 12, 2004 prior to the regular board meeting.

### **C. Quality Council**

There is no Quality Council meeting on September 28, 2004 due to conflict with King County Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division's Exemplary Service Awards ceremony on that same date and time.

### **D. Recovery Initiatives Committee (RIC)**

Eleanor reported that at the last committee meeting, two representatives from Rose House gave a report on their activities. Rose House is not affiliated with mental health; it is funded by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. Eleanor has visited their facility and was impressed. Doug Stevenson was unable to attend the meeting so the planned discussion on recovery ordinance was tabled. A representative from Costco has been invited to talk about possible job placements as part of recovery process at the next month's meeting.

### **E. Goals and Priorities Ad Hoc Committee**

The initial meeting of the committee was held on August 24, 2004 with Eleanor Owen, Clifford Thurston, Helen Nilon and Ron Sterling in attendance. They discussed preliminary ideas about goals and priorities and will continue the discussion with a goal of offering written recommendations to the full board by December 2004.

## **V. STAFF REPORT**

### **A. Participation in State Mental Health Task Force**

Jean Robertson encouraged board members to participate in the State Mental Health Task Force meeting. Time for public testimony is provided at the end of each meeting. Interested parties need to sign up at the beginning of the meeting if they want an opportunity to testify.

### **B. Board's Position on Inpatient Care Issue**

There was a discussion regarding the Western State Hospital general bed census problems. The board voiced concern on poor/substandard patient care in community settings due to waitlists and backlogs due to reduction of WSH beds and competition for general beds which has been the result of so-called "flips" from forensic beds to general beds.

Eleanor Owen made a motion which was seconded by Howard Miller to send a letter to Karl Brimner, State Mental Health Division Director, with cc to Mental Health Task Force and State Governor to express concern about the WSH general bed census problem and to express opposition to reducing WSH bed availability at

this time and to suspend liquidated damage assessments. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **C. Children's Mental Health Plan**

Jean gave a heads up to the board members about the Children's Mental Health Plan being crafted by the Division. A draft plan will be provided to the board members next month prior to the regular board meeting for review and comments. A Division staff will present the plan at the October 12, 2004 board meeting and answer questions.

The plan contains initiatives for children's services. It is intended to serve the children more effectively in the community and reduce the use of hospitalization. We are also developing a hospital diversion and crisis services plan. These two efforts dovetail with the division's participation in the Center for Health Strategies Seriously Emotionally Disturbed- Best Clinical and Administrative Strategies project. Eleanor would like to see specific youth data on the plan.

### **D. MH Stakeholders Workgroup**

The Stakeholders Workgroup has reviewed an array of services in which state only money is needed. The workgroup plans to develop some contingency plans should we receive less funding than is necessary to maintain the current services..

Jean stated that there are three new modalities which can be coded as Medicaid services under the B3 waiver. These include respite services, clubhouse services and employment support services. Three workgroups will be formed to discuss strategies for implementing these services. There will be no new money to provide these services.

### **E. Peer-to-Peer Certification**

There is some discussion about grandfathering the existing peer-to-peer counselors into the system. As of the new waiver, peer-to-peer services are Medicaid approved services. Sabine Whipple is our Division's representative for peer-to-peer (family to family) work groups. Lisa Floyd is organizing the adult peer-to-peer implementation. Kathy Peterson and Beverly Miller are the organizers of training and information sessions that are taking place around the state.

## **VI. LIAISON REPORTS**

**Howard Miller, Downtown Emergency Service Center:** Nothing new to report at this time on DESC. The agency continues to work on the renovation of Morrison Hotel.

**Eleanor Owen, Western State Hospital:** 30 patients from PALS were sent into various communities this year, and the Division planned to discharge the remainder next year. It is uncertain whether a lawsuit will be filed against the State as a result of this arrangement. Western State Hospital (WSH) had a successful audit from CMS. Timothy Keller is the new Chair of WSH Advisory Board. All WSH staff have been informed regarding elimination of seclusion and restraint practices. WSH's smoking policy restricts smoking around the storage area; each patient is provided a key to the storage room. WSH's approved census is 883. Currently, the hospital is 14 over the approved census.

**Gwendolyn Williams, Therapeutic Health Services:** The agency has received additional funding from State Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse (DASA) and Seattle-King County Department of Public Health which could provide services to 100 more methadone patients in their Seneca facility. Their Summit facility is full, so clients are being channeled through their Midvale branch. There are 250 in the waiting list which are difficult to locate due to homelessness.

**Clifford Thurston, Consumer Operated Programs:** Clifford will be attending a three-day training sponsored by Washington Institute. It will be held at Western State Hospital on September 27-29, 2004. This all day training is from 8:00am to 5:00pm. He is also attending the Accountability Advisory Task Force which promotes consumer operated programs. He hopes to see consumer operated programs mandated in the future.

## **VII. OTHER ITEM**

Eleanor Owen gave a report on Task Force for Regional Human Services meeting held last August 10, 2004. There were about 100 people who attended and 20 people who testified before the Task Force. No response was provided by any members of the Task Force.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

Prepared by:

Attested by:

Rhoda A. Naguit  
Recording Secretary

Ron Sterling  
Board Chair